

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-37 (canceled)

38. (previously presented) A method for administrating distribution of contents, comprising the steps of:

receiving a content from a content provider;

encrypting the content with a content key;

adding a content ID to the encrypted content;

transmitting the encrypted content having the content ID added thereto to a content server;

generating a use condition including the content ID specifying the content which a user apparatus is authorized to use in accordance with the use condition and a user ID specifying the user apparatus that is authorized to use the content in accordance with the use condition; and

transmitting the content key and the use condition in response to a request from a user.

39. (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising the step of generating the content key.

40. (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising the step of compressing the content.

41. (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising the step of encrypting the content key so that an unauthorized apparatus is unable to decrypt.

42. (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, further comprising the steps of:

executing a process to share a session key with the user;

and

encrypting the use condition with the session key.

43. (previously presented) An apparatus for administering distribution of contents, comprising:

receiving means for receiving a content from a content provider;

encrypting means for encrypting the content with a content key;

adding means for adding a content ID to the encrypted content;

transmitting means for transmitting the encrypted content having the content ID added thereto to a content server;

generating means for generating a use condition including the content ID specifying the content which a user's apparatus is authorized to use in accordance with the use condition and a user ID specifying the user apparatus that is authorized to use the content in accordance with the use condition, wherein the transmitting means transmits the content key and the use condition in response to a request from the user.

44. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 43, further comprising generating means for generating the content key.

45. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 43, further comprising compressing means for compressing the content.

46. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 43, wherein the encrypting means encrypts the content key so that an unauthorized apparatus is unable to decrypt.

47. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 43, further comprising executing means for executing a process to share a session key with the user, and wherein the encrypting means encrypts the use condition with the session key.